Claims Pending and Amended after Second Office Action

1. (presently amended) An expandable hoop support for a flexible tube having a nominal opening and a target site having an unsupported aperture with an aperture size, comprising:

a. a preformed hoop composed ~~of a coil~~ of material disposed to form ~~about~~ a first coil ~~axis~~ which first coil ~~axis~~ is disposed ~~to encircle a second axis~~ to form a second ~~double~~ coil having an outer diameter, ~~and~~ having memory retaining properties ~~to urge said material into said double coil formed to match said flexible tube nominal opening~~, and having one of a rounded and a ball end; and

b. cylindrical delivery means for constraining said second coil in to a linear configuration wherein said deliver means and said coil are adapted for insertion into said flexible tube at a target site unsupported aperture size and said delivery means is then removed, said hoop will then reconfigure to said second ~~double~~ coil configuration wherein said double coil outer diameter is configured to be larger than said target site unsupported aperture size and configured to urge said target site aperture to said flexible tube nominal opening.

2.(presently amended) The expandable hoop support of claim 1 wherein said delivery means is a delivery tube arranged to fit within one of said first and said second coil.

3.(presently amended) The expandable hoop support of claim 1 wherein said delivery means is a delivery tube arranged to fit over one of said first and said second coil.

4.(previously amended) The expandable hoop support of claim 1 wherein said hoop comprises a stent.

5.(presently amended) A procedure for opening a coronary artery having a nominal opening size adjacent a target having at least a partial occlusion thereof, comprising the steps of:

a. determining an artery structure nominal opening size;

b. providing a preformed hoop composed of a primary coil of material having one of a rounded and a ball end ~~disposed about a first axis, said first axis being disposed~~ said primary coil being wound to ~~encircle a second axis to~~ form a secondary ~~double~~ coil having an outer diameter matching said nominal opening size, and instilling ~~having~~ memory retaining properties into said preformed hoop to urge said material into said double coil;

c. [[b.]] providing a cylindrical delivery means for constraining said secondary coil into a linear configuration;

d. [[c.]] inserting said hoop and said delivery means into an artery at said target site having an unsupported

aperture size less than said nominal opening size; and

e. [[d.]] removing said delivery means whereby said hoop remains in said artery to support said artery in an open position wherein said secondary ~~double~~ coil outer diameter is larger than said target site unsupported aperture size and said ~~double~~ secondary coil ~~coin~~ is configured to urge said target site aperture to said nominal opening size.

6.(presently amended) The procedure of claim 5 wherein said deliver means is a rod arranged to fit within said primary coil.

7.(presently amended) The procedure of claim 5 wherein said delivery means is a delivery tube arranged to fit over said primary coil.

8.(previously amended) The procedure of claim 5 wherein said step of inserting comprises the step of inserting said delivery means into a coronary artery.

9.(presently amended) A vessel support system for support of at least a partial occlusion target site in a vessel having adjacent regions with a nominal opening size, comprising:

a preformed hoop comprising a wire wound in primary ~~disposed about a first longitudinal axis in consecutive~~ loops therealong having one of a rounded and a ball end, said wire loops ~~and said~~

~~first longitudinal axis~~ being further wound to form secondary loops therealong ~~disposed about a second axis wherein said first axis is disposed in consecutive loops along said second axis~~ and having an outer diameter matching said nominal opening size, wherein

said ~~wire comprising a memory for~~ secondary hoop ~~disposition about said second axis~~ outer diameter is greater than a vessel target site aperture and sized to urge said aperture to said nominal opening size.

10.(presently amended) The vessel support system of claim 9, further including

a delivery means for constraining said secondary ~~preformed~~ loop ~~second axis~~ into a substantially linear configuration.

11.(previously presented) The vessel support system of claim 9, wherein said wire comprises a multi-filar wire.

12.(presently amended) The vessel support system of claim 9, further comprising non-uniform spacing ~~along said second axis~~.

13.(previously added) The vessel support system of claim 12, wherein said non-uniform spacing is configured to provide and aperture of sufficient size to permit fluid flow to a vessel side branch.

14.(cancelled) The procedure of claim 5, wherein said step of

providing a preformed hoop includes the steps of:

determining an artery structure,

preforming said hoop to match said structure, and

instilling memory into said preformed hoop.

15.(presently amended) The procedure of claim 5 [[14]], wherein said step of providing a preformed hoop includes the step of providing an open space of sufficient size to permit fluid flow into an artery side branch.

16.(previously presented) The procedure of claim 15, further including the step of orienting said open space within said artery to align said open space with said artery side branch.

17.(presently amended) The expandable hoop support of claim 1, wherein said preformed hoop is formed to comprise different spaces ~~along said second axis~~.

18.(previously presented) The expandable hoop support of claim 17, wherein said secondary ~~preformed~~ loop is formed to have an open space therealong of a size sufficient to allow fluid to flow to a tube side branch, and being wider than said secondary loop adjacent spacing ~~along said second axis~~.